WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An air conditioner control device (6) which controls an air conditioner (51) in accordance with a speech-based instruction, comprising:

means (6) which detects an operational status of an external device (5) including said air conditioner (51) in response to input of said speech-based instruction; and

means (6) which controls not only said air conditioner (51) but also devices (52, 53, 54, and 55) other than said air conditioner device in such a way that a condition desired by an utterer of said speech is obtained based on an operational status detected by said operational status detection means.

2. An air conditioner control device (6) which controls an air conditioner (51) in accordance with a speech-based instruction, comprising:

means (6) which detects operational statuses of said air conditioner (51) and a window in response to input of said speech-based instruction; and

means (6) which controls not only said air conditioner (51) but also an operation of closing said window in such a way that a condition desired by an utterer of said speech is obtained when an operational status detected by said operational status detection means indicates that the window is open.

3. An air conditioner control device comprising:

speech recognition means (2) which acquires speech data representing a speech, and specifies a candidate of a phrase represented by said speech by performing speech recognition on said speech data; and

air conditioner control means (6) which specifies a variable to be changed for obtaining a condition desired by an utterer of said speech and/or a direction in which said variable should change, based on a candidate specified by said speech recognition means (2), environmental data indicating a condition of an environment under which a conditioning by an external air conditioner (51) is performed and/or operational status data indicating an operational status of said air conditioner (51), and controls said air conditioner (51) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction.

4. The air conditioner control device according to claim 3, wherein said air conditioner control means (6) further controls devices (52, 53, 54, and 55) other than said air conditioner (51),

specifies a device (5) to be controlled to change a variable to be changed for obtaining a condition desired by an utterer of said speech based on a candidate specified by said speech recognition means (2), said environmental data, and/or said operational status data, and controls a specified device (5) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction.

5. The air conditioner control device according to claim 3 or 4, wherein said air conditioner control means (6) has:

means (6) which discriminates whether or not the utterer of said speech feels comfortable with a current condition based on a candidate specified by said speech recognition means (2), and stores a condition indicated by environmental data to be supplied at a time when it is discriminated that the utterer feels comfortable; and

means (6) which discriminates whether or not the utterer of said speech desires to obtain a condition with which the utterer felt comfortable in the past based on a candidate specified by said speech recognition means (2), and upon determination that the utterer desires, refers locally stored past environmental data, specifies a variable to be changed for obtaining a condition indicated by the referred past environmental data and/or a direction in which said variable should change, and controls said air conditioner (51) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction.

6. An air conditioner control apparatus comprising:

air conditioner control means (6) which specifies a variable to be changed to obtain a desired condition and/or a direction in which said variable should change, and controls an external device (5) including an air conditioner (51) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction; and

simulation means (6) which executes a simulation regarding a shift of a condition under a control being executed by said air conditioner control means (6),

wherein said air conditioner control means (6) discriminates whether a conditioning method should be changed or not based on a result of said simulation and environmental data indicating a condition of an environment under which a conditioning by said air conditioner (51) is performed, and upon discrimination that it should be changed, outputs a message urging a change of the conditioning method or changes a mode of a control of said device (5).

7. An air conditioner control method of an air conditioner control device (6) which controls an air conditioner (51) in accordance with a speech-based instruction, comprising:

a step of detecting an operational status of an external device (5) including said air conditioner (51) in response to input of said speech-based instruction; and

a step of controlling devices (52, 53, 54, and 55) other than said air conditioner device as well as said air conditioner (51) in such a way that a condition desired by an utterer of said speech is obtained based on an operational status detected by said operational status detection means.

8. An air conditioner control method comprising:

a speech recognition step of acquiring speech data representing a speech, and specifying a candidate of a phrase represented by said speech by performing speech recognition on said speech data; and

an air conditioner control step of specifying a variable to be changed for obtaining a condition desired by an utterer of said speech and/or a direction in which said variable should change, based on a candidate specified by said speech recognition step, environmental data indicating a condition of an environment under which a conditioning by an external air conditioner (51) is performed and/or operational status data indicating an operational status of said air conditioner (51), and controlling said air conditioner (51) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction.

9. An air conditioner control method comprising:

an air conditioner control step of specifying a variable to be changed to obtain a desired condition and/or a direction in which said variable should change, and controlling an external device (5) including an air conditioner (51) in such a way that a specified variable changes in a specified direction; and

a simulation step of executing a simulation regarding a shift of a condition under a control being executed by said air conditioner control means,

wherein in said air conditioner control step, it is discriminated whether a conditioning method should be changed or not based on a result of said simulation and environmental data indicating a condition of an environment under which a conditioning by said air conditioner (51) is performed, and when it is discriminated that the conditioning

method should be changed, a message urging a change of the conditioning method is output, or a mode of a control of said device (5) is changed.